

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/052441

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G11B19/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G11B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 201 772 B1 (YOKOTA TOKUO) 13 March 2001 (2001-03-13) cited in the application the whole document	1, 12, 13
A	WO 03/016992 A (HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY) 27 February 2003 (2003-02-27) cited in the application the whole document	10

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Benfield, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/052441

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 6201772	B1	13-03-2001	JP	3015694 B2		06-03-2000
			JP	8180649 A		12-07-1996
			JP	3416308 B2		16-06-2003
			JP	8185662 A		16-07-1996
			US	6002654 A		14-12-1999
			CN	1313596 A		19-09-2001
			CN	1130791 A ,C		11-09-1996
			US	5781515 A		14-07-1998
<hr/>						
WO 03016992	A	27-02-2003	US	2002075420 A1		20-06-2002
			EP	1417534 A2		12-05-2004
			WO	03016992 A2		27-02-2003
<hr/>						